Ark

LITTLE ROCK REUNION

Confederate Veterans
and
Sons of Veterans

THE HOTELS OF LITTLE ROCK

REPORT OF THE HOTEL PROPRIETORS TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The following is a report from the hotel proprietors and managers of Little Rock, to the Reunion Executive Committee, and is sent to you in reply to your inquiry and for your information:

Little Rock, Ark., February 22, 1911.

Mr. W. M. Kavanaugh,
Chairman Executive Committee, C. V. R.,
Little Rock, Ark.:

Dear Sir—We are in receipt of your communication under date of February 18th, and note your comments with reference to the matter of our requiring reservations of rooms to be made for four days during the coming Reunion.

As you well know, this policy was adopted after learning that it had been in vogue practically for years, and we certainly did not feel we could be making a mistake in carrying out a condition that had already proven satisfactory. This plan was submitted to the Hotel Committee of the Reunion and approved by them. We have already closed our contracts for renting cots, beds, bed clothing, pillows, etc., and at prices that will not permit our making any great amount of money.

We feel that your committee do not take into consideration the fact that in order to handle this event, we hotel men are compelled to have placed in every room in our hotels, a month previous to the Reunion, notice to the effect that these rooms are engaged for May 15th and must be vacated at that time. In other words, in order to be able to carry out our contracts for reservations, we must necessarily have to have the rooms at least a day before, in order to get extra beds, cots, etc., placed, and the rooms in proper shape for the occasion.

We have agreed not to raise our rates during the Convention, and mean to adhere strictly to that agreement. As we are called upon to go to so great an expense in preparing to handle this crowd, we feel that it would be an

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injustice to be asked to rescind our action in the matter. We are unable to see why we are being so severely criticised as you state, and why it does in any way reflect upon our city and State. We are only carrying out the usual custom, and if we were endeavoring to institute a new policy of handling the Reunion, of course it would have been altogether a different matter.

We are inclined to believe that this criticism is only the views of a few persons, who seek to establish a new rule in connection with the Reunion. Already all of us have made numerous contracts, and with apparent satisfaction to all contracting parties.

We desire to call your attention to the fact that we do not mean to convey the idea that people cannot attend this Reunion without paying for rooms for four days. Our idea and contention is, that if we are called upon to enter into contracts for the reservation of certain rooms to be occupied by a certain number of people, that we are obliged to make the requirement of a reservation for four days. As you can easily see, these rooms would have to be vacated the day before, in order to have them in proper shape, and if our reservation was made for three days, we would naturally lose the use of every room in our house which had been reserved, for one night, unless the requirement is made for four days. We are informed by numerous regular attendants of the Reunion that our policy does not differ the slightest from any other Reunion, and after a careful consideration of the matter, we beg to advise that it is our intention to adhere to our original policy.

Trusting you and your committee will be able to view it from the standpoint of justice and right as we feel sure we are in the matter, we are,

Very respectfully,

MERCHANTS HOTEL, J. R. Frazier, Propr.
HOTEL MAIN, J. Rogers Young,
GLEASON HOTEL, T. P. Murray,
NEW CAPITAL HOTEL, H. S. McCleskey,
GRAND CENTRAL AND HOTEL GRAND, W. M. Estep,
HOTEL MARION, Homer Wilson, Mgr.

P. S.—We have in possession correspondence from the hotelkeepers of Memphis, Mobile and New Orleans, all of which advise us that their policy of handling the Reunion is the same as that which we have adopted. In fact, it was from their policies that we adopted ours.

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